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Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 29
Jointly financed administrative activities

(Programme 24 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)

Contents

		Page
Overview		2
A.	International Civil Service Commission	4
B.	Joint Inspection Unit	10
C.	Information Systems Coordination Committee	14
D.	Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions	17
E.	Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions	20

* The present document contains section 29 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

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Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 29
Jointly financed administrative activities

Overview

29.1 Provisions under this section cover the requirements of five administrative organizational units financed on an inter-agency basis. They are the following:

(a) The International Civil Service Commission and its secretariat;

(b) The Joint Inspection Unit and its secretariat;

(c) The secretariats of subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination concerned with administrative issues: the Information Systems Coordination Committee, the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions and the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions.

29.2 Provisions for all five bodies are proposed under the regular budget on a net basis and represent only the United Nations share in the budgets of the bodies. Nevertheless, the full budgets of the bodies are presented to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval.

29.3 The proposals for the appropriation made under the present section reflect an increase in requirements over the level of the appropriation approved for the biennium 1998–1999 in the amount of $2,349,400. The increase is attributable to the fact that, unlike in the bienniums 1996–1997 and 1998–1999, the United Nations share in the budgets of the five bodies would also include the components of costs relating to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the requirements for which have not been included in the programme budgets starting with the biennium 1996–1997.

29.4 It should recalled in this connection that a decision had been taken in 1995, at a time of preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996–1997, to estimate the United Nations share of costs in the budgets of jointly financed bodies, excluding a share of UNHCR and UNRWA in those costs. That decision was made on the assumption that UNHCR and UNRWA would each be responsible for a share in the costs of the jointly financed bodies. Proposals had accordingly been made in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996–1997 under section 27, Jointly financed administrative activities, for a reduction of the 1996–1997 estimates for the United Nations share in the costs of the subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, namely the Information Systems Coordination Committee, the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions and the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions, to reflect the expectation that UNHCR and UNRWA could assume a share of the costs. With regard to the 1996–1997 estimates for the ICSC and the JIU, in line with the above-mentioned new arrangements, a reimbursement to the United Nations by UNHCR and UNRWA for payment of their share of costs had been budgeted under income section 2 of the proposed programme budget. The General Assembly had agreed with the proposals for the reduced United Nations share, in the context of approval of the programme budget for the biennium 1996–1997.

29.5 Neither UNHCR nor UNRWA agreed with the change in the arrangements, nor with the shifting to them of the financial responsibilities for the costs equivalent to their share in the budgets of the jointly financed bodies. The United Nations Secretariat was also unable to reach an agreement with those programmes on reimbursement of the expenditures which the United Nations incurred on behalf of UNHCR and UNRWA when paying their share of the costs associated with the activities of the jointly financed bodies.

29.6 The basis for participation of UNHCR and UNRWA in the activities of the jointly financed bodies has been reviewed in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The participating organizations in each of these bodies are the same organizations of the United Nations system which participate in the activities of the Administrative Committee on Coordination itself. On that basis, it is understood that the United Nations represents the interest of both UNHCR and UNRWA in the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery. Accordingly, the financial responsibility vis-à-vis those bodies also rests with the United Nations.

29.7 The summary analysis of the overall regular budget estimates of the requirements by programme and object of expenditure is provided in tables 29.1 and 29.2.

Table 29.1 **Summary of requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
A. International Civil Service Commission (United Nations share)	9 747.1[a]	3 256.8	1 020.9	31.3	4 277.7	207.8	4 485.5
B. Joint Inspection Unit (United Nations share)	8 651.7[b]	1 645.8	1 012.0	61.4	2 657.8	48.1	2 705.9
C. Information Systems Coordination Committee (United Nations share)	336.0	357.5	100.8	28.1	458.3	8.2	466.5
D. Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (United Nations share)	502.8	392.5	110.1	28.0	502.6	9.1	511.7
E. Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (United Nations share)	191.3	171.6	105.6	61.5	277.2	5.0	282.2
F. International Computing Centre (United Nations share)	6 288.5	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	**25 717.4**	**5 824.2**	**2 349.4**	**40.3**	**8 173.6**	**278.2**	**8 451.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

	1996–1997 expenditures	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total (1) and (2)	**25 717.4**	**5 824.2**	**2 349.4**	**40.3**	**8 173.6**	**278.2**	**8 451.8**

[a] Reflects total requirements of ICSC in accordance with arrangements prevailing in that biennium.

[b] Reflects total requirements of JIU in accordance with arrangements prevailing in that biennium.

Table 29.2 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	14 341.2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Other staff costs	152.3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Consultants and experts	663.3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Travel	1 383.4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Contractual services	684.6	–	–	–	–	–	–
General operating expenses	921.3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Hospitality	3.0	–	–	–	–	–	–
Supplies and materials	37.9	–	–	–	–	–	–
Furniture and equipment	211.8	–	–	–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	7 318.6	5 824.2	2 349.4	40.3	8 173.6	278.2	8 451.8
Total	**25 717.4**[a]	**5 824.2**	**2 349.4**	**40.3**	**8 173.6**	**278.2**	**8 451.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

	1996–1997 expenditures	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total (1) and (2)	**25 717.4**	**5 824.2**	**2 349.4**	**40.3**	**8 173.6**	**278.2**	**8 451.8**

[a] Reflects total requirements of ICSC in accordance with arrangements prevailing in that biennium.

A. International Civil Service Commission

Overview

29.8 By its resolution 3357 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974, the General Assembly established the International Civil Service Commission for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system. The 15-member Commission is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and is responsible for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system. The functions and powers of the Commission, covering its mandate in broad terms, are outlined under articles 10 to 16 of its statute. Under its statute the Commission performs its functions in respect of the United Nations and of those specialized agencies and other international organizations which participate in the United Nations common system. In the exercise of its functions, the Commission is guided by the principle set out in the agreements between the United Nations and the other organizations, aiming at the development of a single unified international civil service through the application of common personnel standards, methods and arrangements.

29.9 Under the statutory provisions, the Commission makes recommendations to the General Assembly on the broad principles for determining the conditions of service of the common system staff, the scale of salaries and post adjustments and specific allowances and benefits for staff in the Professional and higher categories and on the scales of staff assessment. The Commission establishes the methods by which the principles for determining conditions of service should be applied, rates of allowances and benefits (other than pensions and those falling under the purview of the General Assembly), as well as the conditions of entitlement to

those allowances and benefits and standards of travel. The Commission is also responsible for the classification of duty stations for the purpose of applying post adjustments. It conducts surveys of best prevailing conditions of employment for the General Service and related categories of staff at the headquarters duty stations and makes recommendations to the organizations on salaries and allowances based on those surveys. The Commission establishes job classification standards for all categories of staff and advises organizations of the common system on the development of such standards. It makes recommendations to the organizations on issues pertaining to human resources management, such as recruitment, mobility, career development, gender balance, staff training and development.

29.10 The overall broad objectives of the Commission's work programme are to: (a) continue maintenance of a common system of salaries, allowances and benefits; (b) establish and maintain procedures and/or methodologies; (c) establish and maintain post adjustment classifications and daily subsistence allowance rates for some 200 countries and areas around the globe; (d) conduct surveys of best prevailing conditions of employment for General Service staff at headquarters duty stations; (e) develop and maintain job classification standards; and (f) provide guidance/advice on various human resources management issues.

29.11 The Chairman of the Commission has the responsibility to direct the work of the Commission. As the Chief Administrative Officer of the Commission, the Executive Secretary is responsible for the preparation of the budget estimates for the Commission, in close consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, and for their submission to the Secretary-General.

29.12 As a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, the Commission must present its total budget estimates to the Assembly for consideration and approval. Since the organizations of the common system, other than the United Nations, pay more than 70 per cent of the Commission's budget, a copy of it has been provided simultaneously by the Executive Secretary to the participating organizations of the common system.

Programme of work of the International Civil Service Commission

29.13 The overall programme of work of the Commission is composed of two broad components, namely, the operational activities dealing with the equalization and maintenance of purchasing power parity of staff at the Professional and higher categories through the post adjustment system, the daily subsistence allowance rates, maintenance of job classification standards and the classification of duty stations according to conditions of life and work, hazard pay, etc. The second broad component covers studies on specific aspects of conditions of employment of all categories of staff resulting from requests by the General Assembly and/or the governing bodies of other organizations of the common system, members of the Commission, the Organization or staff bodies. The budget estimates are based on the programme of work resulting from requests from the above-mentioned bodies submitted to the Commission to date. The Commission will hold two sessions of three weeks' duration each in 2000 and two sessions of two weeks' duration each in 2001. With the approval of the Assembly, the Commission established a subsidiary body, the Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions, to advise it on technical/statistical issues dealing with the methodological aspect of the post adjustment system. The Advisory Committee generally holds one session of one week's duration each year.

29.14 The secretariat of the Commission is composed of the Office of the Executive Secretary, the Cost-of-Living Division, the Personnel Policies Division and the Salaries and Allowances Division.

29.15 The programme of work of the Cost-of-Living Division derives primarily from the Commission's mandate to establish the classification of duty stations for the purpose of applying post adjustments, as outlined under article 11 (c) of the statute. In the biennium 2000–2001, the Division will conduct its next round of place-to-place surveys for headquarters and in Washington, D.C. duty stations, including a price collection exercise, its verification and processing, establishment of post adjustment indices, multipliers and rental subsidy thresholds and distribution of that information to user organizations. Methodological research on various aspects of the post adjustment system will also be carried out.

29.16 The work programme of the Personnel Policies Division derives from the Commission's mandated activities under the following articles of its statute: article 13 (establishment of job classification standards); article 14 (standards of recruitment, career development, staff training, performance appraisal, etc.); and article 15 (development of common staff regulations). In addition, the Division is responsible for the operation and management of the scheme for the classification of duty stations according to conditions of life and work (the hardship scheme) and the management of hazard pay, as well as for developmental and policy aspects of the mobility and hardship scheme and for conditions of work in the field. It also coordinates and prepares reports on the implementation of the Commission's decisions and recommendations. In the biennium 2000–2001, the Personnel Policies Division will conduct the following main activities: (a) development of a human resources framework for the organizations of the common system; (b) classification of duty stations according to conditions of life and work (hardship scheme), including recommendations for hazard pay; (c) preparation of the monthly Vacancy Announcement Bulletin; (d) training and information activities; and (e) technical advice and coordination on job classification matters.

29.17 The programme of work of the Salaries and Allowances Division derives from the Commission's mandates under articles 10, 11 and 12 of its statute. In the biennium 2000–2001, the Division will carry out the following main activities: (a) studies on the application of the Noblemaire principle and annual monitoring of remuneration levels of the comparator (the United States federal civil service); (b) reviews of methodologies for determining various allowances and benefits; (c) review of the benefits and allowances, and staff assessment rates; a comprehensive five-year review of the pensionable remuneration and staff assessment scale for all categories of staff; a review of methodology for determining the education grant and an update of the amount, and the methodology for the dependency rate, and the update of the amount; (d) carrying out of General Service salary surveys in Geneva, London, New York, Rome and Vienna; and (e) monthly updates of daily subsistence allowance rates.

Table 29.3 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure (gross budget)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	6 381.9	7 378.6	–	–	7 378.6	442.4	7 821.0
Other staff costs	124.6	210.0	–	–	210.0	10.3	220.3
Non-staff compensation	–	651.4	–	–	651.4	19.6	671.0
Consultants and experts	663.3	256.1	600.0	234.2	856.1	41.6	897.7
Travel	974.9	1 107.2	–	–	1 107.2	53.7	1 160.9
Contractual services	681.9	26.2	(8.9)	(33.9)	17.3	0.9	18.2
General operating expenses	819.4	1 607.9	(300.0)	(18.6)	1 307.9	63.4	1 371.3
Hospitality	3.0	4.2	–	–	4.2	0.2	4.4
Supplies and materials	30.1	41.8	–	–	41.8	2.0	43.8
Furniture and equipment	68.0	52.6	–	–	52.6	2.6	55.2
Total	**9 747.1**	**11 336.0**	**291.1**	**2.5**	**11 627.1**	**636.7**	**12 263.8**

Table 29.4 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: International Civil Service Commission

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998–1999	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
P-5	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
P-4/3	10	10	–	–	–	–	10	10
P-2/1	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
Total	**20**	**20**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**20**	**20**
General Service category								
Principal level	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Other level	22	22	–	–	–	–	22	22
Total	**24**	**24**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**24**	**24**
Grand total	**44**	**44**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**44**	**44**

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Total requirements of the International Civil Service Commission

29.18 In formulating the Commission's budget for the biennium 2000–2001, the following general assumptions have been made:

(a) The Commission will hold two sessions per year, one in New York and the other elsewhere;

(b) Two working groups, established in accordance with the revised methods of work of the Commission, will each meet for approximately two weeks during the biennium with the participation of members of the Commission, its secretariat and representatives of the organizations and staff;

(c) In line with section I, paragraph 4, of General Assembly resolution 47/216 of 23 December 1992, it is anticipated that the Commission will be invited to participate in at least one meeting per year of the technical working groups on specific aspects of the remuneration system established by the governing bodies of the participating organizations;

(d) The programme of work of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions and its subcommittee and meetings of other United Nations system bodies in which the Commission's secretariat participates will not differ substantially from those already programmed and referred to in these estimates;

(e) Total additional in-session costs, not borne by the organizations hosting the session away from New York, will be contained in the Commission's budget on a full funding basis.

Other staff costs

29.19 The provision of $157,600 under this heading covers temporary assistance for meeting costs in respect of the meetings of the Commission and the Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions held away from the United Nations, including interpretation, translation and typing. The cost of servicing meetings held at United Nations conference centres will be met from section 27, Conference services.

Travel of representatives

29.20 The estimated requirements of $715,200 under this heading relate to travel and subsistence allowance of: (a) 13 members of the Commission to attend the Commission sessions in New York during the biennium; (b) 15 members of the Commission to attend the Commission sessions away from New York, based on the assumption that the two sessions will be held at the headquarters of participating organizations in Europe; (c) field visits for the members of the Commission to be organized in conjunction with the Commission's sessions; (d) six members of the Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions to attend its sessions at one of the headquarters locations; (e) the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman to ensure proper coordination and contact with the organizations of the common system, meetings with executive heads, attendance at meetings of the working groups established by the organizations and/or the meetings of their governing bodies as well as those of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board; and (f) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to undertake at least one field visit each year, with a view to maintaining contact with the administration and staff at field locations on a continued basis.

Compensation

29.21 The estimated requirements of $651,400 relate to compensation ($542,800) and pension contribution ($108,600) provisions for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 37/131 of 17 December 1982, 40/256 of 18 December 1985 and 45/249 of 21 December 1990. Expenditures under this item covers the honorariums for the two full-time members of the Commission, namely, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The requirement of $542,800 is based upon the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the procedures for adjusting the honorariums for inflation. The resources requested ($108,600) are based on the amounts approved by the General Assembly and on the procedure for adjusting the pensionable remuneration amounts of the above-mentioned officials between comprehensive reviews.

Secretariat of the Commission

Posts

29.22 The estimated requirements of $7,378,600 relate to the continuation of 20 posts in the Professional category and above and 24 General Service posts to provide the staffing support required by the Commission to respond to all mandated activities.

Other staff costs

29.23 An amount of $20,900 is requested under general temporary assistance and would provide for approximately four work-months at the General Service level for replacement of staff on extended sick leave and during periods of peak workload. Overtime requirements, estimated at $31,500, would adequately meet the needs of the secretariat in terms of the need to work extra hours so as to meet the deadlines for pre-session and in-session documents of the Commission.

Consultants and experts

29.24 The resources requested under this item ($856,100), reflecting an increase of $600,000, would be required for the following:

(a) Costs arising from the recommendations of the External Auditors ($600,000) in the light of the findings of the management audit of the Commission secretariat conducted in response to General Assembly resolution 51/216 of 18 December 1996. The Board of Auditors made specific recommendations on the development of a computerized integrated management information system for the Commission which were detailed in its report (A/52/811). The Commission accepted the recommendations of the Board and requested its secretariat to implement them as soon as possible. A systems study for the design of an integrated management information system has been undertaken by a consulting firm. The overall development costs of the project have been estimated at the range of $2.0 million. A phased approach would be taken in implementing it. The initial costs for the

biennium 2000–2001 have been estimated at $600,000, to meet the requirements according to the project development plan;

(b) Costs relating to specialized studies ($256,100), including analyses of new approaches in the human resources management field with a view of developing standards, methods and arrangements that will respond to the specific needs of the organizations; an update of the New York/Washington, D.C., cost-of-living differential for net remuneration margin calculations; actuarial studies for the comparison of pensions and health-care benefits of selected potential comparators with those offered by the current comparator; and determination of the cost-of-living differential in the context of comparator country studies.

Travel

29.25 Requirements under this heading, at the maintenance level, relate to official travel of staff ($282,000) and travel of staff to meetings ($110,000). Under travel to meetings, resources would enable a limited number of staff to attend the Commission's sessions away from New York in order to provide secretariat services and technical support to the Commission. Other staff travel relates to the following:

(a) Cost-of-living surveys at the six headquarters locations;

(b) Participation by the secretariat in cost-of-living surveys at approximately 10 non-headquarters duty stations;

(c) General Service salary surveys in Geneva, Montreal, Rome and Paris;

(d) Coordination with the authorities of the comparator civil service;

(e) Participation in the subcommittees and working groups of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions;

(f) Reviews of conditions of service in the field in the context of classification of duty stations according to conditions of work and life;

(g) Organization by the secretariat of an annual workshop on the United Nations salaries and post adjustment systems;

(h) Participation by the secretariat in the working groups established by the governing bodies of the organizations and/or the meetings of the governing bodies themselves.

Contractual services

29.26 The provisions under this heading, totalling $17,300, reflect a reduction in requirements of $8,900 and relate to training ($11,200) and external printing ($6,100). The training requirements provide for attendance of the secretariat at highly specialized courses in areas such as human resources development and salary administration. The courses are generally not offered by the United Nations Training Service. The external printing costs relate to the issuance of updated versions of the booklets on the United Nations Common System of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits, as well as on the Post Adjustment System.

General operating expenses

29.27 Provisions of $1,307,900 would cover: (a) rental of premises, including electricity and other maintenance costs ($1,022,500); (b) rental and maintenance of office equipment, such as photocopying machines ($36,000); (c) rental and maintenance of data-processing equipment ($14,100); (d) communications ($129,500); (e) the Commission's share of maintenance of the local area network (LAN) technical infrastructure, as well as maintenance of the office automation equipment at the secretariat ($65,800); and (f) shipment and distribution of documents to Commission members and other miscellaneous expenditures ($39,200). The estimates reflect a reduction in requirement under rental of premises ($300,000), due to a reduction in the rental rates already realized.

Hospitality

29.28 An amount of $4,200 is requested and will be used for the secretariat to host official functions on the occasion of meetings of working groups dealing with specific issues, as well as hospitality extended to officials of international and intergovernmental organizations.

Supplies and materials

29.29 The requirements of $41,800 under this heading relate to the purchase of supplies for office automation equipment, photocopying machines, stationery and general office supplies.

Furniture and equipment

29.30 The requirements of $52,600 under this heading would provide for the regular replacement of office equipment, such as calculators, furniture and filing cabinets ($21,100), and the replacement of data-processing equipment ($31,500).

United Nations share in the cost of the International Civil Service Commission

Table 29.5 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Grants and contributions	9 747.1[a]	3 256.8	1 020.9	31.3	4 277.7	207.8	4 485.5
Total	**9 747.1**	**3 256.8**	**1 020.9**	**31.3**	**4 277.7**	**207.8**	**4 485.5**

[a] Reflects total requirements of ICSC in accordance with arrangements prevailing in that biennium.

Grants and contributions

29.31 The United Nations share of the total cost of the Commission depends on staffing data for participating organizations at the end of 1999. Assuming that this share (including UNHCR and UNRWA) will be approximately the same as the current estimates for the biennium 1998–1999 (36.79 per cent), the share of the United Nations in the total budget of the Commission ($11,627,100) would be $4,277,700 at current rates. On that basis, an appropriation of $4,277,700 (at current rates) is requested. The increase in requirements ($1,020,900) is largely attributable to the fact that, unlike in the biennium 1998–1999, the United Nations share in the costs would incorporate the related shares of UNHCR and UNRWA the requirements for which had been excluded since 1994–1995. Bearing in mind that the United Nations participates in ICSC costs on behalf of those programmes, the Organization would assume the relating costs.

B. Joint Inspection Unit

Overview

29.32 The Joint Inspection Unit, created on an experimental basis in 1968, was established, with effect from 1 January 1974, as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and of the legislative organs of other participating organizations, in accordance with its statute contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 31/192 of 22 December 1976. It is the only system-wide independent external oversight body. It is jointly financed by its participating organizations and is directly responsible to the General Assembly and to the legislative organs of the other organizations of the United Nations system that accept its statute. In accordance with article 20 of its statute, the Unit's budget is included in the regular budget of the United Nations, and its budget estimates are established by the Secretary-General after consultation with the

Administrative Committee on Coordination on the basis of proposals made by the Unit. Beginning with the biennium 1998–1999, the resources requested for appropriation in the United Nations regular budget are shown on a net basis, and represent provisions only for the United Nations share of the Unit's full budget. The full budget of the Unit is, however, presented to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval.

29.33 According to the statute, the inspectors have the broadest powers of investigation in all matters having a bearing on the efficiency of the services and the proper use of funds and provide an independent view through inspection and evaluation aimed at improving management and methods and at achieving greater coordination among organizations. This is accomplished through an annual work programme consisting of an average of 10 to 12 reports, as well as notes and confidential letters. The Unit submits an annual report on its activities to the General Assembly and to the competent legislative organs of its other participating organizations.

29.34 In line with the directives of the legislative organs of its participating organizations, the Unit takes full advantage of its system-wide competence in undertaking comparative analysis on trends and problems faced by various organizations and proposing harmonized, practical and concrete solutions. It focuses its work on important priority items for the participating organizations, identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions aimed at providing the legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations on precisely defined issues.

Table 29.6 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure (gross budget)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	7 959.3	7 159.2	–	–	7 159.2	170.4	7 329.6
Other staff costs	27.7	24.9	–	–	24.9	0.4	25.3
Consultants and experts	–	12.2	–	–	12.2	0.2	12.4
Travel	408.5	481.9	21.8	4.5	503.7	24.5	528.2
Contractual services	2.7	25.9	(10.6)	(40.9)	15.3	0.3	15.6
General operating expenses	101.9	93.8	(19.9)	(21.2)	73.9	1.3	75.2
Supplies and materials	7.8	23.6	(9.3)	(39.4)	14.3	0.2	14.5
Furniture and equipment	143.8	41.6	18.0	43.2	59.6	1.1	60.7
Total	**8 651.7**	**7 863.1**	**–**	**–**	**7 863.1**	**198.4**	**8 061.5**

Table 29.7 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Joint Inspection Unit

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998–1999	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-4/3	5	5	–	–	–	–	5	5
P-2/1	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Total	**10**	**10**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**10**	**10**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Other level	8	8	–	–	–	–	8	8
Total	**9**	**9**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**9**	**9**
Grand total	**19**	**19**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**19**	**19**

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Inspectors

Posts

29.35 The estimated requirements under this heading ($3,433,100) relate to the salaries and emoluments of 11 inspectors appointed by the General Assembly, as approved by the Assembly in its resolution 31/192.

Other staff costs

29.36 The estimate of $24,900 relates to requirements under general temporary assistance and would cover the costs of secretarial services rendered to inspectors while in New York attending sessions of the General Assembly and on other official business, and the replacement of staff on maternity and sick leave.

Travel

29.37 The estimated requirements under this heading ($503,700), reflecting an increase of $21,800, relate to travel of inspectors with respect to the following activities:

(a) Three technical cooperation/humanitarian assistance/peacekeeping studies per year with preparation of related reports, each involving travel of one inspector and one research staff to the field and to the headquarters of at least two participating organizations;

(b) Preparation of four administrative/management system-wide reports per year, each involving travel of two inspectors and one research staff to the headquarters of at least three participating organizations;

(c) Preparation of four administrative/management single organization reports per year, each involving travel of an average of one inspector and one research staff to the headquarters of one participating organization, a regional commission, or two other duty stations;

(d) Travel of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, designated inspector and/or the Executive Secretary for management and administrative meetings/discussions and for the travel of the Unit representation to attend meetings of legislative organs of participating organizations involving two missions per year

to United Nations Headquarters, one mission to the headquarters of one other participating organization and one mission to a regional commission;

(e) Travel of inspectors to present reports to the General Assembly, its subsidiary bodies and the legislative organs of participating organizations, involving travel of 11 inspectors to United Nations Headquarters or to headquarters of other participating organizations.

Secretariat of the Unit

Posts

29.38 The requirements under this heading, amounting to $3,726,100, relate to continuation of the Unit's ten established posts in the Professional category and above, including a D-2 post for the Executive Secretary; one General Service (Principal level) post and eight General Service (Other level) posts; eight posts for the research officers (two P-5, two P-4, two P-3 and two P-2) and one P-3 post for the information technology officer; three posts for the research assistants; and six posts for the support staff (all at the General Service level).

Consultants and experts

29.39 The proposed amount of $12,200 relates to provision of specialized advice to the inspectors in areas where the required expertise is lacking. Although technical support is provided for the Unit's studies by the organizations, impartial outside advice is sometimes necessary, primarily to assist in the analysis and interpretation of data, to comment on the technical soundness of findings and recommendations and to make observations on draft reports.

Contractual services

29.40 The provision of $15,300 requested under this heading would cover the cost of training in information technology ($9,300) and data-processing and broadcasting services ($6,000). In connection with staff training, while the programme is centrally administered by the Office of Human Resources Management, the resources are requested under the Unit budget, since these are also financed by other organizations.

General operating expenses

29.41 The requirements amount to $73,900 and relate to the following expenditures:

(a) Rental and maintenance of equipment estimated at $2,000, which would cover one facsimile machine, existing contracts, and maintenance costs of other office automation equipment ($6,700). In view of significant investments made in office automation during the biennium, most of the office automation equipment will remain under warranty. Accordingly, it is anticipated that maintenance expenditures under this item will be at a reduced level;

(b) Communications ($65,200), relate to the costs of cables and telex charges, telephone rental, installation and related charges and postage and diplomatic pouch service.

Supplies and materials

29.42 The estimated requirements under this heading ($14,300) relate to supplies for office automation equipment, laser and ink-jet printer and fax cartridges, stationery and office supplies, internal reproduction supplies and to specialized books and subscriptions to periodicals.

Furniture and equipment

29.43 A provision of $59,600 relates to costs associated with the programme of development of information technology within the Unit following the recommendations of the Technical Innovations Committee of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

United Nations share in the cost of the Joint Inspection Unit

Table 29.8 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Grants and contributions	8 651.7[a]	1 645.8	1 012.0	61.4	2 657.8	48.1	2 705.9
Total	**8 651.7**	**1 645.8**	**1 012.0**	**61.4**	**2 657.8**	**48.1**	**2 705.9**

[a] Reflects total requirements of the Unit in accordance with arrangements prevailing in that biennium.

Grants and contributions

29.44 The share of the United Nations in the total costs of the Unit will depend on expenditure data for participating organizations at the end of 1999. Assuming that this share (including UNHCR and UNRWA) will be approximately the same as the current estimates in 1998–1999 (33.80 per cent), the share of the United Nations in the estimated cost of the programme ($7,863,100) would amount to $2,657,800 at current rates. Accordingly, an appropriation of $2,657,800 (at current rates), reflecting an increase of $1,012,000, is requested. The increase is attributable to the fact that, unlike in the biennium 1998–1999, the United Nations share in the costs of JIU would incorporate the related shares of UNHCR and UNRWA, the requirements for which had been excluded since the biennium 1994–1995. In view of the fact that the United Nations participates in the cost of the Unit on behalf of those two programmes, the Organization would assume the related costs.

C. Information Systems Coordination Committee

Overview

29.45 The Information Systems Coordination Committee was established by the Administrative Committee on Coordination in October 1993 as a successor body to the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Systems, which in turn was established by the Administrative Committee on Coordination in 1983, in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/71 of 10 November 1982, for ensuring the efficient operation of United Nations information systems for users at the national level and to enhance their capacity to collect, retrieve and disseminate information.

29.46 The functions of the Information Systems Coordination Committee include the following:

(a) Providing advice and medium and long-term strategic views to the Administrative Committee on Coordination on information systems technology and services of the United Nations system organizations and reporting to the Administrative Committee on Coordination on those issues;

(b) Providing a forum for the exchange of information among the information system managers of the various organizations of the United Nations system;

(c) Reviewing implementation of information and telecommunication systems standards and recommended practices by the organizations of the United Nations system and advising on those areas where recommended practices might be adopted and information technology standardized;

(d) Functioning as an electronic repository on information system developments within the United Nations system.

29.47 The present estimates relate to a proposal for approval of the United Nations share in the Committee budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The gross budget of the Committee was reviewed, on behalf of the

Administrative Committee on Coordination, by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) at its eighty-ninth session, held in February 1999. The gross budget of the Committee is presented below.

Table 29.9 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	340.9	420.2	–	–	420.2	6.3	426.5
Other staff costs	353.0	383.7	(332.3)	(86.6)	51.4	1.0	52.4
Consultants and experts	287.9	197.6	386.8	195.7	584.4	10.5	594.9
Travel	37.2	20.0	17.1	85.5	37.1	1.8	38.9
Contractual services	172.1	67.9	(23.5)	(34.6)	44.4	0.8	45.2
General operating expenses	15.9	69.6	14.2	20.4	83.8	1.5	85.3
Supplies and materials	3.0	25.4	(14.4)	(56.6)	11.0	0.2	11.2
Furniture and equipment	16.0	120.3	(47.9)	(39.8)	72.4	1.4	73.8
Total	**1 226.0**	**1 304.7**	**–**	**–**	**1 304.7**	**23.5**	**1 328.2**

Table 29.10 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Information Systems Coordination Committee

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998–1999	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Total	**1**	**1**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**
General Service category								
Other level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Total	**1**	**1**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**
Grand total	**2**	**2**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Total requirements of the Committee

Posts

29.48 The estimated requirements of $420,200 relate to the provision for continuation of one D-1 post for the Secretary of the Information Systems Coordination Committee, supported by one General Service (Other level) staff.

Other staff costs

29.49 The provision of $51,400 relates to general temporary assistance to be used as follows: (a) to assist the Committee secretariat in operating of the Internet server, help desk and system administration for the Official Web Site Locator for the United Nations system; and (b) to assist the Committee secretariat in servicing the annual meeting, in preparing for interest group and task force meetings.

Consultants and experts

29.50 The provision of $584,400, including an increase of $386,800, would be required: (a) to undertake specialized studies on behalf of the various task forces concerning document and archive systems, Internet technologies, library support and information service and telecommunications. The services will be provided by individual consultants and/or specialized consulting firms. The additional requirements will be financed through redeployment of funds from within the Committee budget.

Travel

29.51 The estimated requirements under this heading ($37,100) relate to: (a) official travel of the Committee Secretary for participation in inter-agency meetings outside Geneva, the International Computing Centre (ICC) Management Committee meetings to be held outside Geneva and attendance at seminars on information technology issues to be organized by outside organizations.

Contractual services

29.52 The estimated requirements ($44,400) relate to reimbursement to ICC for the mainframe services.

General operating expenses

29.53 The estimated resources ($83,800) would cover the cost of leases for various office equipment; communications, including the cost of additional Internet usage and electronic and videoconferencing facilities; and maintenance of the Internet server, data-processing systems and other office automation equipment.

Supplies and materials

29.54 The proposed provision under this heading ($11,000) relates to stationery and other office supplies, including photocopy and computer supplies, and subscriptions to serials in the information technology field and reference documents.

Furniture and equipment

29.55 The proposed provision under this heading ($72,400) relates to replacement of office automation equipment in accordance with established guidelines, including the Committee's share in costs of LAN equipment.

United Nations share in the cost of the Information Systems Coordination Committee secretariat

Table 29.11 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Grants and contributions	336.0	357.5	100.8	28.1	458.3	8.2	466.5
Total	**336.0**	**357.5**	**100.8**	**28.1**	**458.3**	**8.2**	**466.5**

Grants and contributions

29.56 The share of the United Nations in the budget of the Committee will depend on staffing data for participating organizations at the end of 1999. Assuming that this share will be approximately the same as the current estimates in the biennium 1998–1999 (35.13 per cent), the share of the United Nations in the estimated costs of the programme would be $458,300 at current rates. On that basis, an appropriation of $458,300, reflecting an increase of $100,800, is requested. The increase ($100,800) is attributable to the fact that, unlike in the biennium 1998–1999, the United Nations share in the costs would incorporate the related shares of UNHCR and UNRWA, the requirements for which had been excluded since the biennium 1994–1995. Bearing in

mind the fact that the United Nations participates in the Information Systems Coordination Committee costs on behalf of those programmes, the Organization would assume the related costs.

D. Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions

Overview

29.57 The Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions is a subsidiary organ of the Administrative Committee on Coordination. Its general objectives are the improvement and harmonization of administrative practices in the organizations of the United Nations system and the promotion of efficiency and economy through management reform of their administrative operations. The fields in which these objectives are pursued are those of personnel, budget, finance and general administration (management systems, travel operations, procurement and other general services).

29.58 The need for coordination in such fields was recognized from the inception of the United Nations system and the activities of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions initiated in February 1948. In its area of competence, the Committee is responsible for dealing with and agreeing on questions coming before it without prejudice to the authority of the Administrative Committee on Coordination itself.

29.59 Of particular importance in the work of the Committee are requirements related to action by central intergovernmental bodies concerned with system-wide coordination (the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination) and central expert bodies responsible for investigation, examination, regulation and control in administrative areas (the International Civil Service Commission, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency). The Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions also addresses matters of system-wide concern brought to its attention by individual participating organizations.

29.60 The Committee operates through regular meetings of senior administrators, which are normally held separately, twice a year, in each of its two general areas of concern, personnel and general administrative questions being dealt with by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) and financial and budgetary questions by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions). Specialized subjects are considered by standing subcommittees or ad hoc technical working groups, as necessary. Many of the activities of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions), as well as its meetings, are coordinated with those of the International Civil Service Commission, at which it represents the executive heads of the organizations and is responsible for putting forward the common positions of the administrations on all issues under consideration. More recently, high-level meetings of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions as a whole have also been periodically convened to discuss experience on managerial improvements and to formulate recommendations thereon to the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

29.61 Support for the work of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions is provided by a small inter-organization secretariat funded by the member organizations, the United Nations and its programmes, each of the specialized agencies (except the World Bank and IMF), IAEA and WTO.

29.62 The proposed gross budget of the Committee for the biennium 2000–2001, which is presented herewith, was reviewed by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) at its eighty-ninth session, held in February 1999.

Table 29.12 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 443.2	1 099.0	–	–	1 099.0	18.8	1 117.8
Consultants and experts	8.7	20.6	–	–	20.6	0.4	21.0
Travel	138.9	103.1	19.4	18.8	122.5	6.0	128.5
Contractual services	117.9	96.8	(18.9)	(19.5)	77.9	1.4	79.3
General operating expenses	27.9	30.8	0.7	0.2	31.5	0.6	32.1
Supplies and materials	2.3	8.9	(1.2)	(13.4)	7.7	0,2	7.9
Furniture and equipment	11.8	6.8	–	–	6.8	0.2	7.0
Total	**1 750.7**	**1 366.0**	**–**	**–**	**1 366.0**	**27.6**	**1 393.6**

Table 29.13 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998–1999	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-5	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-4/3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
P-2/1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**
General Service category								
Other level	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Total	**2**	**2**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**
Grand total	**5**	**5**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**5**	**5**

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Total requirements of the Committee

Posts

29.63 The estimated requirements of $1,099,000 would provide for continuation of two D-1, one P-5 and two General Service (Other level) posts in the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions secretariat for implementation of its programme of work.

Consultants and experts

29.64 The resources proposed under this heading ($20,600) would cover the cost of studies relating to analysis of personnel data and individual entitlements.

Travel

29.65 The estimated requirement under this heading ($122,500) relates to: (a) travel of the Committee's staff to sessions of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) and the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) held outside Geneva and attendance at regular sessions of the International Civil Service Commission, in conjunction with the regular sessions of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions); (b) travel to meetings of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions as a whole and working parties of the Committee and the International Civil Service Commission held at the headquarters of participating organizations outside Geneva; and (c) travel, as required, to meetings of the Fifth Committee and the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

Contractual services

29.66 The estimate of $77,900 relates to data-processing and other contractual services costs, in particular the cost of computer time, data storage, direct access, and software licence upgrade required for the development, processing and maintenance of the Committee personnel database, development of Internet Web pages and the use of electronic mail facilities.

General operating expenses

29.67 The estimated resources under this heading ($31,500) would cover the maintenance costs for data-processing and facsimile equipment; and communications, such as long-distance telephone, postage, pouch and delivery service incurred by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions secretariat.

Supplies and materials

29.68 The proposed provision under this heading ($7,700) relates to supplies for data processing, text-processing, and specialized reference publications, notably in the field of executive remuneration and development of accounting standards.

Furniture and equipment

29.69 The estimated requirements under this heading ($6,800) would provide for the acquisition/replacement of data-processing and text-processing equipment, and acquisition of software licences in accordance with United Nations guidelines.

United Nations share in the cost of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions secretariat

Table 29.14 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Grants and contributions	502.8	392.5	110.1	28.0	502.6	9.1	511.7
Total	**502.8**	**392.5**	**110.1**	**28.0**	**502.6**	**9.1**	**511.7**

Grants and contributions

29.70 The share of the United Nations in the budget of the Committee will depend on staffing data for participating organizations at the end of 1999. Assuming that this share will be approximately the same as the current estimates in 1998–1999 (36.79 per cent), the share of the United Nations in the estimated costs of the programme ($1,366,000) would amount to $502,600 at current rates. On that basis, an appropriation of $502,600, reflecting an increase of $110,100, is requested. The increase ($110,100) is attributable to the fact that, unlike in the biennium 1998–1999, the United Nations share in the costs would incorporate the

related shares of UNHCR and UNRWA, the requirements for which had been excluded since the biennium 1994–1995. Bearing in mind the fact that the United Nations participates in the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions costs on behalf of those programmes, the Organization would assume the related costs.

E. Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions

Overview

29.71 The Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions was established by the Administrative Committee on Coordination in April 1993 as one of its principal subsidiary organs. More than 30 different United Nations system entities currently participate regularly in the Committee's meetings, together with the five regional economic commissions and a number of entities, such as the United Nations Office for Project Services and the United Nations Volunteers and others.

29.72 The Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions is required to advise and assist the Administrative Committee on Coordination in promoting complementarities and in mobilizing the United Nations system's analytical, normative and operational capacities for economic and social development in support of common goals and agreed strategies. It has particular responsibility for analysing and developing the system's response to global, regional and national objectives and priorities; for promoting programme coordination and collaborative arrangements within the system, including effective harmonization of activities at the field level; preparing recommendations to the Administrative Committee on Coordination on policy options and measures in response to guidance and requests from intergovernmental bodies; and for providing general overview of the work of several designated subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

29.73 The Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions holds two regular sessions a year, usually prior to the corresponding spring and autumn sessions of the Administrative Committee on Coordination. The work of the Committee is also carried out by subsidiary bodies such as the Working Group on the Resident Coordinator System, and the Advisory Panel on Operational Activities Training. The former, which holds about five to six meetings per year, also provides the Committee with an inter-sessional capacity to deal with operational activities issues, particularly in relation to the reforms being carried out by the United Nations and having system-wide implications. Other time-bound inter-agency consultative mechanisms are constituted according to need, such as the Working Group on Poverty, the Technical Working Group on the Administrative Committee on Coordination Programme Classification and the Working Group on the Role of the United Nations System in Post-Conflict Situations.

29.74 The current work programme of the Committee includes issues such as the follow-up to global conferences, collaboration with non-governmental organizations, the strengthening of the Resident Coordinator system, inter-agency collaboration in the field of poverty eradication, the role of the United Nations system in post-conflict recovery, programming processes for operational activities, and regional cooperation.

29.75 The budget of the Committee secretariat is jointly financed by the United Nations, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNRWA, UNHCR, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, ICAO, WHO, UPU, ITU, WMO, IMO, WIPO, UNIDO and IAEA, on the basis of a cost-sharing formula reflecting overall expenditures by member organizations. Other support, notably in connection with the servicing of the Committee's regular sessions, is provided by the United Nations. The United Nations Office at Geneva provides accommodation to the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions secretariat at the Palais des Nations and certain support services, such as personnel administration, budget and finance.

29.76 The gross proposed budget of the Committee, which is presented below, was reviewed by the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) at its eighty-ninth session, held in February 1999.

Table 29.15 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	814.8	698.4	–	–	698.4	12.4	710.8
Other staff costs	7.2	3.9	(0.9)	(23.0)	3.0	–	3.0
Consultants and experts	49.0	32.1	(3.4)	(10.5)	28.7	0.6	29.3
Travel	50.1	60.8	(0.5)	(0.8)	60.3	2.9	63.2
Contractual services	–	0.7	–	–	0.7	–	0.7
General operating expenses	17.5	18.2	3.0	16.4	21.2	0.3	21.5
Supplies and materials	10.3	5.3	–	–	5.3	–	5.3
Furniture and equipment	5.0	0.7	1.8	257.1	2.5	–	2.5
Total	**953.9**	**820.1**	**–**	**–**	**820.1**	**16.2**	**836.3**

Table 29.16 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998–1999	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*	*1998–1999*	*2000–2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	–	–	1	1	–	–	1	1
P-4/3	–	–	1	1	–	–	1	1
Total	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**
General Service category								
Other level	–	–	1	1	–	–	1	1
Total	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**
Grand total	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Total requirements of the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions

Posts

29.77 The estimated requirements ($698,400) would provide for continuation of two posts in the Professional category and above (one D-1 and one P-4) and one General Service (Other level) post.

Other staff costs

29.78 The provision of $3,000 relates to general temporary assistance and would provide for ten working days of secretarial assistance per year in order to assist in the servicing of the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions meetings, working groups and task forces held away from the Palais des Nations and outside Geneva.

Consultants and experts

29.79 The resources required under this heading ($28,700) would cover consultant services for the in-depth analysis of the wide range of technical issues on which the secretariat lacks sufficient expertise.

Travel

29.80 The estimated requirements under this heading ($60,300) relate to travel of staff to Headquarters to attend sessions of the Second Committee of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Executive Board of UNDP, and travel to participate in meetings of inter-agency bodies, workshops, seminars and informal consultations.

Contractual services

29.81 The estimated requirements under this heading ($700) would provide for data-processing services which relate to software updates and Internet fees.

General operating expenses

29.82 The provision of $21,200 relates to rental and maintenance of a photocopying machine, communications costs and maintenance of office and electronic data-processing equipment.

Supplies and materials

29.83 The proposed provision under this heading ($5,300) relates largely to supplies required for updating the Committee's *Operational Activities Reference Manual*.

Furniture and equipment

29.84 The estimated requirements under this heading ($2,500) relate to the acquisition of computer applications, in particular for enhancing the Committee's Web site.

United Nations share in the cost of the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions secretariat

Table 29.17 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1996–1997 expenditures*	*1998–1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000–2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Grants and contributions	191.3	171.6	105.6	61.5	277.2	5.0	282.2
Total	**191.3**	**171.6**	**105.6**	**61.5**	**277.2**	**5.0**	**282.2**

Grants and contributions

29.85 The share of the United Nations will depend on expenditure data for participating organizations at the end of 1999. Assuming that this share will be approximately the same as the current estimates in the biennium 1998–1999 (33.80 per cent), the share of the United Nations in the estimated cost of the programme ($820,100) would amount to $277,200 at current rates. On that basis, an appropriation in the amount of $277,200, reflecting an increase of $105,600, is requested. The increase is attributable to the fact that, unlike in the biennium 1998–1999, the United Nations share in the costs would incorporate the related shares of UNHCR and UNRWA, the requirements for which had been excluded since the biennium 1994–1995. Bearing in mind the fact that the United Nations participates in the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions costs on behalf of those programmes, the Organization would assume the related costs.